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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Reissue Application for
U.S. Patent No. 6,041,031
issued March 21, 2000

Inventors: Isao ICHIMURA et al.

Reissue Application No.: 09/726,436

Filed: December 1, 2000

For: OPTICAL DISC RECORDING/
REPRODUCTION APPARATUS AND
METHOD

Attn: BOX DAC

RECEIVED

FEB 22 2001

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS AND
PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.181 TO ACCORD FILING DATE

Commissioner of Patents
BOX DAC
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Reissue Supplement Notice of Missing Parts of Application, the applicants hereby petition the Commissioner to accord a filing date of December 1, 2000, to the above-identified application.

As an initial matter, the paper received is titled "Reissue Supplement Notice of Missing Parts of Application," and states that the paper is an attachment to the "'Notice to File Missing Parts of Application' Filing Date Granted" and the "'Notice of Incomplete Application' No filing Date Granted." However, the "Notice to File Missing Parts of Application' Filing Date Granted" and the "'Notice of Incomplete Application' No filing Date Granted" have not been received.

The Reissue Supplement Notice of Missing Parts of Application indicates that "the item(s) indicated below as missing must be filed within the period for reply set on the attached form to avoid abandonment." However, no time period has been clearly set forth within the Reissue Supplement Notice of Missing Parts of Application. Moreover, the mailing date of the Notice is not shown thereon. A copy of this paper is provided along with this petition.

The Reissue Supplement Notice of Missing Parts of Application indicates that "correction of the following is required to complete the reissue application." In particular, the Reissue Supplement Notice refers to the Reissue Specification, the Consent Of The Assignee, the Assignee's Statement Under 37 CFR 3.73(B), and the Declaration And Power Of Attorney.

Regarding the Reissue Specification, a specification of six pages, five pages of claims, an abstract, and five sheets of drawings were deposited with the Patent and Trademark Office, and a filing date was accorded, on December 1, 2000. 37 CFR 1.53(b). A copy of the postcard bearing the stamp of the Patent and Trademark Office mail room acknowledging the filing of the application on December 1, 2000 is provided along with this petition. MPEP 503. However, the specification deposited on December 1, 2000 was deposited as a cut-up soft copy of the original patent, with a single column of the printed patent mounted on a separate sheet. Accordingly, a reissue specification provided in double-column format, along with a Preliminary Amendment to the reissue specification, is included with this petition.

Regarding the Consent Of The Assignee, the Assignee's Statement Under 37 CFR 3.73(B), and the Reissue Application Declaration By The Inventors, these papers were deposited with

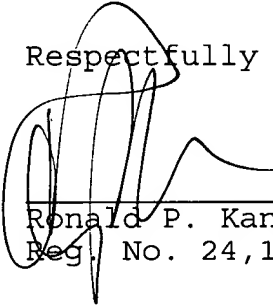
the Patent and Trademark Office on December 1, 2000, as evidenced by the copy of the postcard receipt. A copy of these papers as filed is provided for your review.

No fee is believed required to support this petition. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.181. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 18-0013 in the amount of \$130.00 to cover the Petition fee and for any additional costs that may be incurred.

Favorable action with respect to this petition that this application be accorded a filing date of December 1, 2000 is respectfully solicited. Notice to the undersigned that all papers have been properly processed is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 16, 2001



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